



# Washington State Department of **General Administration**

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## **Our Services**

General Administration (GA) is the main support agency for state government. We manage the planning, construction, and remodeling of state facilities all over Washington. We are the stewards of the State Capitol Campus. We deliver mail, provide motor pool vehicles, and lease space for public facilities. We develop contracts for goods and services used by state agencies and local governments.

## **CAPITOL LAKE: Estuary Study and Milfoil**

For the past decade, GA has been working in partnership with eight other state, local, and tribal government agencies in the Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan (CLAMP) advisory committee to develop a long-term plan for Capitol Lake.

### **Estuary Feasibility Study**

In December 2002, GA presented the CLAMP 10-Year Plan to the State Capitol Committee (SCC). The SCC adopted the plan, but chose to defer consideration of a primary objective: **"Complete an estuary feasibility study to determine a long-range management decision."**

The SCC sought more information on this objective. There are many unknowns about estuary restoration, including costs. The CLAMP Committee developed a scope of work to investigate the feasibility of returning the lake to an estuary and the implications that this would have for the community and the environment.

The study is estimated to cost \$875,000 - \$950,000 and take a year to complete. The CLAMP Committee will present its scope of work and support for the estuary study to the SCC on November 6, 2003.

### **Noxious Weed - Eurasian Milfoil**

GA discovered Eurasian Milfoil in Capitol Lake in September 2001. In two years the weed has taken over about 80 percent of the middle basin and about 20 percent of the northern basin. It threatens to choke off other vegetation in the lake. The CLAMP 10-Year Plan includes an objective to eliminate milfoil and another noxious weed, purple loosestrife, from Capitol Lake.

GA proposed using an herbicide to kill milfoil in the summer of 2003. However, this was opposed by some community members. The CLAMP committee decided instead to research the milfoil further in order to guide action on the weed during 2004. The committee also considered "back-flushing" the lake with saltwater as a means of killing milfoil. However, this was rejected after it was determined that saltwater would have damaging side effects to the freshwater lake environment.

GA expects to present the CLAMP committee with the milfoil research within the next few months. That information will identify the impacts the weed is having on water temperature, dissolved oxygen levels, native vegetation and fish.

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